

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1   1. A method for splicing network connections, said method  
2   comprising:  
3       receiving a first handoff request from a first node,  
4           wherein the first node is connected to a client  
5           node using a first connection;  
6       identifying a second node based on a second node  
7           identifier, wherein the second node is connected  
8           to the first node using a second connection;  
9       updating one or more connection tables with data  
10          corresponding to the first and second  
11          connections; and  
12       redirecting one or more client packets sent over the  
13           first connection from the client node to the  
14           second node in response to the updated connection  
15           tables.
- 1   2. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the  
2   updating further comprises:  
3       writing a first entry to a first mapping table, the  
4           first entry including a client identifier  
5           corresponding to the client node, a first node  
6           identifier corresponding to the first node, and a  
7           pointer to a second mapping table;  
8       creating the second mapping table; and  
9       writing a second entry in the second mapping table,  
10          the second entry including the second node  
11          identifier.
- 1   3. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising:  
2   writing a third entry in the second mapping table in  
3   response to receiving a second handoff request,

4           the third entry identifying a third node, wherein  
5           the second entry includes a first handoff  
6           sequence value corresponding to the first handoff  
7           request and wherein the third entry includes a  
8           second handoff sequence value corresponding to  
9           the second handoff request;  
10          receiving a request from the client, the request  
11           including a request sequence value corresponding  
12           to the request; and  
13          redirecting the request to the third node in response  
14           to the request sequence value being greater than  
15           or equal to the second handoff sequence value.

1     4. The method as described in claim 3 further comprising:  
2           redirecting the request to the second node in response  
3           to the request sequence value being greater than  
4           or equal to the first handoff sequence value and  
5           less than the second handoff sequence value.

1     5. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2           writing a first reverse mapping entry to the first  
3           mapping table, the first reverse mapping entry  
4           including the second node identifier, the first  
5           node identifier and a pointer to a reverse  
6           mapping table;

7           creating the reverse mapping table; and  
8           writing a second reverse mapping entry in the reverse  
9           mapping table, the reverse mapping entry  
10           including the client node identifier.

1     6. The method as described in claim 5 further comprising:  
2           receiving a packet from the second node that includes  
3           a destination address identifying the first node;

4        matching the packet to the first reverse mapping  
5              entry;  
6        retrieving the client node identifier from the reverse  
7              mapping table in response to the matching; and  
8        changing the destination address to identify the  
9              client node identifier.

1    7. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2        redirecting one or more response packets sent by the  
3              second node over the second connection to the  
4              client node in response to the updated tables.

1    8. An information handling system comprising:  
2        one or more processors;  
3        a memory accessible by the processors;  
4        a network interface connecting the information  
5              handling system to a computer network; and  
6        a connection splicing tool for splicing connections  
7              between nodes, the connection splicing tool  
8              including:  
9        means for receiving a first handoff request from  
10              a first node, wherein the first node is  
11              connected to a client node using a first  
12              connection over the computer network;  
13        means for identifying a second node based on a  
14              second node identifier, wherein the second  
15              node is connected to the first node using a  
16              second connection over the computer network;  
17        means for updating one or more connection tables  
18              stored in the memory with data corresponding  
19              to the first and second connections; and

20           means for redirecting one or more client packets  
21           sent over the first connection from the  
22           client node to the second node in response  
23           to the updated connection tables.

1     9. The information handling system as described in claim  
2       8 wherein the means for updating further comprises:  
3           means for writing a first entry to a first mapping  
4           table stored in the memory, the first entry  
5           including a client identifier corresponding to  
6           the client node, a first node identifier  
7           corresponding to the first node, and a pointer to  
8           a second mapping table stored in the memory;  
9           means for creating the second mapping table; and  
10          means for writing a second entry in the second mapping  
11           table, the second entry including the second node  
12           identifier.

1     10. The information handling system as described in claim  
2       9 further comprising:  
3           means for writing a third entry in the second mapping  
4           table in response to receiving a second handoff  
5           request, the third entry identifying a third node  
6           connected to the computer network, wherein the  
7           second entry includes a first handoff sequence  
8           value corresponding to the first handoff request  
9           and wherein the third entry includes a second  
10          handoff sequence value corresponding to the  
11          second handoff request;  
12          means for receiving a request from the client over the  
13           computer network, the request including a request  
14           sequence value corresponding to the request; and

15 means for redirecting the request to the third node in  
16 response to the request sequence value being  
17 greater than or equal to the second handoff  
18 sequence value.

1 11. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 10 further comprising:

3 means for redirecting the request to the second node  
4 in response to the request sequence value being  
5 greater than or equal to the first handoff  
6 sequence value and less than the second handoff  
7 sequence value.

1 12. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:

3 means for writing a first reverse mapping entry to the  
4 first mapping table, the first reverse mapping  
5 entry including the second node identifier, the  
6 first node identifier and a pointer to a reverse  
7 mapping table stored in the memory;

8 means for creating the reverse mapping table in the  
9 memory; and

10 means for writing a second reverse mapping entry in  
11 the reverse mapping table, the reverse mapping  
12 entry including the client node identifier.

1 13. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 12 further comprising:

3 means for receiving a packet from the second node over  
4 the computer network, the packet including a  
5 destination address identifying the first node;

6 means for matching the packet to the first reverse  
7 mapping entry;

8 means for retrieving the client node identifier from  
9 the reverse mapping table in response to the  
10 matching; and  
11 means for changing the destination address to identify  
12 the client node identifier.

1 14. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:

3 means for redirecting one or more response packets  
4 sent by the second node over the second  
5 connection to the client node in response to the  
6 updated tables.

1 15. A computer program product stored in a computer  
2 operable media for splicing network connections, said  
3 computer program product comprising:

4 means for receiving a first handoff request from a  
5 first node, wherein the first node is connected  
6 to a client node using a first connection;

7 means for identifying a second node based on a second  
8 node identifier, wherein the second node is  
9 connected to the first node using a second  
10 connection;

11 means for updating one or more connection tables with  
12 data corresponding to the first and second  
13 connections; and

14 means for redirecting one or more client packets sent  
15 over the first connection from the client node to  
16 the second node in response to the updated  
17 connection tables.

1 16. The computer program product as described in claim 15  
2 wherein the means for updating further comprises:

means for writing a first entry to a first mapping table, the first entry including a client identifier corresponding to the client node, a first node identifier corresponding to the first node, and a pointer to a second mapping table; means for creating the second mapping table; and means for writing a second entry in the second mapping table, the second entry including the second node identifier.

17. The computer program product as described in claim 16 further comprising:

means for writing a third entry in the second mapping table in response to receiving a second handoff request, the third entry identifying a third node, wherein the second entry includes a first handoff sequence value corresponding to the first handoff request and wherein the third entry includes a second handoff sequence value corresponding to the second handoff request; means for receiving a request from the client, the request including a request sequence value corresponding to the request; and means for redirecting the request to the third node in response to the request sequence value being greater than or equal to the second handoff sequence value.

18. The computer program product as described in claim 17 further comprising:

means for redirecting the request to the second node in response to the request sequence value being

5 greater than or equal to the first handoff  
6 sequence value and less than the second handoff  
7 sequence value.

1 19. The computer program product as described in claim 15  
2 further comprising:

3 means for writing a first reverse mapping entry to the  
4 first mapping table, the first reverse mapping  
5 entry including the second node identifier, the  
6 first node identifier and a pointer to a reverse  
7 mapping table;

8 means for creating the reverse mapping table; and  
9 means for writing a second reverse mapping entry in  
10 the reverse mapping table, the reverse mapping  
11 entry including the client node identifier.

1 20. The computer program product as described in claim 19  
2 further comprising:

3 means for receiving a packet from the second node that  
4 includes a destination address identifying the  
5 first node;

6 means for matching the packet to the first reverse  
7 mapping entry;

8 means for retrieving the client node identifier from  
9 the reverse mapping table in response to the  
10 matching; and

11 means for changing the destination address to identify  
12 the client node identifier.